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NEWS RELEASE

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FORT HOOD SOLDIERS WILL BE HONORED AT RETIREMENT CEREMONY

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FORT HOOD, Texas – Fourteen Fort Hood Soldiers will be honored at a formal retirement ceremony at Club Hood on Friday (January 29) at 10 a.m.

The senior retiree at the ceremony will be Chief Warrant Officer Darius Davis, of the 69th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, 32nd Army Air and Missile Defense Command.

Davis will retire after 30 years of service. During his career, Germany, Korea, Israel, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Iraq, and numerous stateside assignments. His awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal.

Upon his retirement, Chief Warrant Officer Davis, will reside in Copperas Cove, Texas.

Other Soldiers being honored upon their retirement from active duty include:

Chief Warrant Officer Gregory O. Jordan, currently serves as Brigade Maintenance Officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 27th Brigade Support Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division and has completed 20 years of service to include overseas tours in Korea, Germany, Albania, Iraq. His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal. After his retirement, Jordan will reside in Killeen, Texas.

Chief Warrant Officer Linda D. Elzie, currently serves as G6 Communications Security Officer In-charge, Charlie Company, III Corps Special Troops Battalion, III Corps. She has completed 23 years of service to include overseas tours in Korea, Italy, Bosnia, Hawaii, Japan, and Afghanistan. Elzie's awards and decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal. After retirement, Elzie will reside in Harker Heights, Texas.

Master Sgt. Steven R. Vigil, currently serves as Rear Detachment First Sergeant, Special Troops Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division. He has completed 25 years of service to include overseas tours in Germany, England, Iraq. His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal; the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, with "V" device, the Army Commendation Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal. Vigil will reside in Hutto, Texas after retirement.

Sgt. 1st. Class Vincent C. Jackson, currently serves as Battalion Schools Noncommissioned Officer In-charge, Headquarters and Headquarter Company, 2nd Battalion, 4th Aviation Regiment, 4th Aviation Combat Brigade, 4th Infantry Division. He has completed 20 years of service, to include overseas tours in Germany, Korea, Saudi Arabia, and Iraq. His awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service

Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal. Jackson will reside in Osyka, Mississippi.

Sgt. 1st Class Ricky J. McKenzie, serves as Platoon Communications Chief, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Aviation Regiment Battalion, 4th Aviation Brigade, 4th Infantry Division. He has completed 21 years of service to include overseas tours in Germany, Egypt, Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia, and Iraq. His awards and decorations include the Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal. McKenzie will reside in Warner Robins, Georgia.

Sgt. 1st Class Juan M. Barbosa, serves as Mortuary Affairs Noncommissioned Officer In-charge, Bravo Company, Division Special Troops Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas. He has completed 25 years of service to include overseas tours in Kuwait, Germany, and Korea. His awards and decorations include the Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal. After retirement, Barbosa will reside in Killeen, Texas.

Sgt. 1st Class Christopher D. Downey, serves as Crew Chief, Charlie Company, 2nd Battalion, 4th Aviation Regiment, 4th Combat Aviation Brigade, 4th Infantry Division. He has completed 23 years of service to include overseas tours in Korea, Germany, Bosnia, and Iraq. His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal. After retirement, Downey will reside in Killeen, Texas.

Master Sgt. David W. Grant, Jr., serves as Operations Sergeant, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 36th Engineer Brigade, III Corps. He has completed 20 years of service, to include overseas tours in Kosovo, Germany, and Iraq. His awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal. Grant will reside in Killeen, Texas.

Sgt. 1st Class Jesus E. Mancillas, serves as Operations Noncommissioned Officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Special Troops Battalion, 1st Infantry, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division. He has completed 20 years of service to include overseas tours in Korea Germany, Korea, Afghanistan, and Iraq. His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, with "V" device, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal. Mancillas will reside in Killeen, Texas.

Sgt. 1st Class Jose M. Valdes, Jr., serves as Platoon Sergeant, Charlie Company, 2nd Battalion, Warrior Transition Brigade, III Corps and will retire after 29 years of service to include overseas tours in Germany, Korea, and Iraq. His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal. After retirement, Valdes will reside in Copperas Cove, Texas.

Sgt. 1st Class Ronald B. Cook, serves as the Platoon Sergeant, Alpha Battery, 1st Battalion, 6th Field Artillery, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division., Cook has completed 22 years of service to include overseas tours in Korea, Germany, Afghanistan, and Iraq. His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal. After retirement Cook will reside in Killeen, Texas.

Staff Sgt. Lawrence A. Longoria, serves as Instructor, Noncommissioned Officer Academy, III Corps. Longoria has completed 20 years of service to include overseas tours in The Balkans, and Germany. His awards and decorations include the Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal. After retirement Longoria will reside in Killeen, Texas.

Staff Sgt. Corretta I.W. Majors, serves as the Command Financial Specialist, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 4th Aviation Regiment, 4th Combat Aviation Brigade, 4th Infantry Division. Majors has completed 21 years of service to include overseas tours in Germany, Korea, Saudi Arabia, and Iraq. Her awards and decorations include the Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal. After retirement Majors will reside in Cottdale, Florida.

Media wishing to cover the event should contact the III Corps Public Affairs office at (254) 287-0106, or (254) 931-6881 no later than 4 p.m. on Jan. 28.

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